

Dana College to Start Building New Dormitory

It was good news that Dana College got the \$336,000 so it can start building a new Women's Dormitory. The College has \$160,000 for the purpose, and the government supplies the balance to be paid over a period of 10 years at a low interest.

The dormitory will provide space for 132 women students and a housemother.

It is well known that Dana was fully accredited two years ago. The new building, which should be ready in the Fall of 1960, is the first step in the development of the college.

We rejoice that we shall be able to certify a very thriving, fully accredited, four year college to the new church.

News and Notes



Pastor and Mrs. Edward Eskildsen

Two New Missionaries to Japan

It is a very great joy to announce that Pastor and Mrs. Edward Eskildsen have been accepted by the UELC Board of Foreign Missions as missionaries to Japan. As we in the future will work together with the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Free Church, Pastor Eskildsen's application was presented also to the Joint Board of these two churches, and it was accepted unanimously. Pastor Eskildsen spent his first thirteen years in Manchuria where his father, who is now a doctor in Sanger, California, worked as a medical missionary from 1922-41. Pastor Eskildsen graduated from Trinity Seminary in 1954, and has since that time served First Trinity in Indianapolis where a beautiful new church was dedicated recently. Mrs. Eskildsen is a daughter of the late Pastor C. Spear and a sister of Pastor Ralph Spear, Luverne, N. D. Pastor Eskildsen will do graduate work before going to Japan and will attend Yale University this summer.

Racine, Wis., Gethsemane Lutheran, Karl J. Wilhelmsen, pastor, broke ground May 3 for a new educational unit, which will cost \$150,000. \$54,000 is already in the building fund.

Where an old pastor is appreciated. Pastor Paul C. Johnsen, one of our missionaries in Japan, writes to us that he recently had Dr. J. M. T. Winther for a series of meetings. He goes on to say that when he is to speak they always bill him as "The oldest Protestant Missionary in Japan." This really attracts a crowd, for the Japanese respect old age. We quote: "We were both smiling about the fact that we would advertize our special Evangelism meetings in America as having 'The oldest Pastor in our Church' as the main speaker, no one would want to come. In Japan it is the opposite. Even Jr. High School students came to church for the first time just to hear Dr. Winther. Sometimes it makes us young people feel like going back home (where we are

more respected while young) and then coming back to the Orient, when we get old (where we are more respected for age)."

A New Home Mission Church at Thompson Grove, St. Paul Park, Minn., will be established by the Home Mission Board of the UELC. Pastor Jerrold Elling of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, has accepted the call. He will move into the new parsonage August 1st. A first unit chapel and Sunday School wing will be erected at the cost of \$60,000. Building operations will begin in July.

Dickson, Alberta, Canada. During the vacancy Mr. Elmer Rawlings of Red Deer has served the church and directed the choir as well as instructed the confirmation classes. The Women of the Church, the Luther League and the Boy Scouts have been ably led by different people of the congregation. One of the few early pioneers in the settlement, Mrs. Fred Pedersen, had "open house" on her 86th birthday recently. Many came to call on her.

THE 63RD ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 63rd Annual Convention of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held at Sidney, Montana, upon invitation from Pella Lutheran Church (Stanley Larsen, Pastor), June 18-23, 1959. The opening services will begin Thursday evening, June 18, at 7:30 p.m. The convention will continue through Tuesday noon.

All congregations are urged to send delegates, one delegate for each fifty members (twenty-one years or over). Delegates will please have credentials blanks filled out, bring to the convention and present to the Credentials Committee.

All matters which require convention action should be in the hands of the Church Council by June 1st.

The Pre-Convention Reports are available through the pastors of the congregations. We urge all, both pastors and congregations, to give prayerful consideration to all the reports. May God grant His blessing upon our 63rd Annual Convention.

William Larsen, President
Lawrence Siersbeck, Secretary

MEALS AT UELC CONVENTION

The committee serving the meals at the Synodical Convention to be held in Sidney, Montana, June 18-23, state that they will have meal ticket books for the noon and evening meals available for \$9.00. This does not include the men's and women's banquets which will be \$2.00 each. All breakfasts will be served in the church basement and a free-will offering will be received to cover the cost of the breakfasts. During the entire convention at least one meal a day will be served in the Hotel LaLonde banquet room. The hotel is also centrally located between the church and the high school where all of the meetings will be held.

The Housing committee reports the average cost of hotel room during the convention will be \$4.50 to 8.00.

Ed Thogersen
Publicity Chairman

(Continued on page 16)

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Editorials and Comments

SOCIETY IN MORAL DECLINE

We were thinking of editorializing on the morals of society based on some recent events in society. Then we received a copy of the Watchman-Examiner and read an editorial, which discusses the very subject we were beginning to write about. So we reprint the following showing that it is better than we could write it ourselves.

There is an apostasy of life as well as of the mind. The guardians of the Christian faith seem more absorbed in matters of religious opinions than in morals. A clash in opinions may turn out to be but an evasion of moral issues. It is easier to talk around a question than to perform an ethical duty, or to correct conduct.

We have turned our sinning into subjects. We call our sins a "complex," a "maladjustment," a hangover from a difficult childhood. From that point we go on to invent excuses for sinners. An explanation of conduct which produces no solution becomes a substitute for judgment. We almost deny that God condemns sin. It seems better to pity human folly and let it alone; we think it will somehow work itself out. It does, in corruption and destruction!

For instance, both the Anglican and the Scottish churches have been debating the right and wrong of homosexuality. A strong representative group of Christians wish to remove from it the taint of criminality. While the final estimate may arrive at retains the verdict of both the Bible and history, it by no means explains the large number who wish to protect from the criminal code those whose private immorality is a corrupting force in society. This was the sin of Sodom, whose horror drew down the judicial wrath of God upon the city, to its obliteration.

The common fault of the church of our time is its artificial treatment of immorality. We are content to accept a paramour and adulteress as a person fit to provide us with amusement, rather than a specimen of our shame. Satan himself can make people laugh and cry, he is always wanted and welcomed.

The screen is where heroes and heroines of drama or comedy receive the worship of the people. No matter how devoid of virtue or modesty, yea even decency, the individual will be, if he or she will perform for our amusement well adored them and in our generosity toward them make it possible for them to receive fabulous awards.

We live in a fool's paradise. We think God is indifferent to our moral obtuseness; to our easy acceptance of low character; to our indifference to the debauchery of childhood and innocence; to our enjoyment of vulgarity and amusement that defies all ethical standards. We seem to forget the divine sentence that "whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." This is our folly.

In the service of God there is to be a dignity to character, a preference to virtue, a duty to believe in righteousness, a compulsion to uphold the divine law so that this earth

may be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Apostasy from morals depersonalizes man and his society. It makes it so that he can neither be God's man, nor his society the kingdom of God. We may be sure, therefore, that our sins will find us out. When we fail the highest, we descend to the lowest. Thus society invites its own doom.

DR. LARSEN TO CHAIR THE ALC'S CONVENTION

The presiding officers for the constituting convention of The American Lutheran Church, scheduled for April 22-24 next year in Minneapolis, were elected at a meeting in Blair, Nebraska of the Joint Union Committee for the three-way merger.

Dr. William Larsen of Blair, president of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, and chairman of the JUC, was named to chair the sessions of the three-day meeting at which the two-million-member denomination will be constituted.

Dr. Larsen is completing his first three-year term as head of the UELC, which a decade ago initiated the merger negotiations that will unite his church body with the American Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church. He was elected chairman of the JUC last March.

Dr. William L. Young of Columbus, Ohio, executive secretary of the ALC's Board of Higher Education, who has been secretary of the Joint Union Committee since it was formed in 1950, will serve in the same capacity at the constituting convention.

The JUC also decided to ask the Division of Public Relations of the National Lutheran Council to handle public relations in connection with the constituting convention and preliminary events leading up to it.

Details of mutually agreeable arrangements are to be worked out with the NLC's Division of Public Relations by the JUC's publicity committee. Chairman of both groups is Dr. George S. Schultz of Columbus, director of stewardship and finance for the ALC.

The JUC adopted a proposed schedule of first meeting of the 18 new boards, commissions and standing committees of The ALC, to be held at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., July 9-10, immediately after sessions of the union committee, July 7-9.

Following a divine service on the afternoon of July 9, at which Pastor Karl J. Wilhelmsen will preach, an orientation session will be held at which Dr. O. G. Malmin of Minneapolis, editor of the Lutheran Herald, and vice chairman of the JUC, will brief some 150 members of the new boards.

It is expected that at least some of the boards will elect executives at their meetings in July, while some will delay this task until later this year.

Church News *from here and there*

UNITING CHURCHES REPORT MEMBERSHIP OF 2,191,327

The three church bodies that will unite next year to form "The American Lutheran Church" have reported a combined baptized membership of 2,191,327 in 1958, a total increase of 70,960 over the previous year.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church gained 36,312 members or 3.35 per cent to boost its membership to 1,119,121 by the end of last year.

The American Lutheran Church added 32,245 members or 3.31 per cent in 1958 to reach a total of 1,005,174, the fourth Lutheran body to pass the million-mark in membership.

The United Evangelical Lutheran Church showed an increase of 2,403 members or 3.7 per cent and now has 67,032 members.

If the churches grow at the same ratio during 1959-60, the new church will start with 2,331,000 members Jan. 1, 1961.

LRS IN CUPID'S ROLE FOR 3 BRIDES-TO-BE

Romance was in the air at Idlewild International Airport, New York, with the Lutheran Refugee Service as Cupid.

Helped by LRS, three brides-to-be arrived here by plane from Europe on April 29 to join their fiances and start a new life in America.

Also on the plane and under Lutheran auspices were two young mothers with small children bound for reunion with their husbands, and a 72-year-old mother awaited by an engaged daughter.

Among the future brides was Miss Katrina Bamer, 20-year-old Yugoslavian refugee, who hurried down the ramp, through customs and into the waiting arms of Peter Piskie. Katrina and Peter plan to marry in the near future and to reside in Philadelphia, where Peter is employed. Katrina's passage to the United States was arranged by LRS.

Erika Schmidt, a German immigrant coming to wed Norbert K. H. Wilde in Buellton, California, was met at the airport by German-speaking LRS representative, Mrs. Ingrid Walters.

Mrs. Walters assisted Erika with travel arrangements to California.

Also aided by LRS was Doris Stahl, a German immigrant on her way to marry Horst R. Wallman in LaFayette, Ind. Mr. Wallman has been in this country since April 1957. Because he could not pre-pay Doris' transportation expenses, LRS granted her a loan so she could join him at this time.

WARNS AGAINST DECLINE OF METHODIST RATIO TO POPULATION

Unless greater gains in membership are realized in the next few years, the proportion of Methodists in the U.S. population will decline, a Methodist leader said in Miami Beach, Fla.

Ray H. Nichols of Vernon, Tex., newspaper publisher and president of the Methodist General Board of Lay Activities, said "there is reason for encouragement, however," in the fact that certain areas of the church have made "outstanding gains" for a number of years.

He told the annual meeting of the Methodist General Board of Evangelism that "this is an indication that winning members on profession of faith is largely a matter of organization, effective planning and dedication to the primary business of the Church."

Mr. Nichols urged a larger use of laymen in all types of evangelistic effort to overcome the shortage of ministers, and intensive emphasis on evangelism in the churches.

"Evangelism, continuous, persistent and urgent and emphasizing the heart-warming experiences in dedicated Christian service, is the answer to most of the church's problems," he said.

EXPECTANT MOTHERS SAFER IN CHOIR THAN HOME

Five expectant mothers who sang in the senior choir of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Minneapolis, Minn., say they feel more secure in the choir than at home.

Among the other members of the 55-voice choir are three physicians and three nurses.

CHURCH COLLEGE COACH SCORES SPORTS EMPHASIS

Sports are "the most oversold commodity in American education," according to the athletic director of Olaf College, a Lutheran institution in Northfield, Minn.

Ade Christenson, a football coach for 30 years, scored the "victory any price" sports philosophy prevailing at many colleges. He expressed his views in a book, "Verdict of the Scoreboard."

He said it was dishonest to continue to pretend that all college sports are "amateur." He advocated an end to recruitment of players.

UNITED LUTHERAN BOARD SCRUTINIZE MEDICAL ETHICS

Delicate medical and moral questions relating to contraception, artificial insemination, sterilization, abortion and euthanasia will be explored and clarified by the United Lutheran Church in America's Board of Social Missions.

The Rev. Harold Haas of New York, executive secretary of the board, said the decision was made by the 21-member board at its semi-annual meeting here.

The board's Department of Social Action has been authorized to prepare a consultation of theologians and members of the medical profession to explore the moral problems in connection with "certain special areas" of medical treatment.

Dr. Haas explained that one of the reasons for the action is that several requests have been received by the church for information and guidance on certain controversial medical practices.

The Rev. Rufus Cornelsen, director of the Department of Social Action, said there is a definite need for study of medical-social ethics too, and that the church should clearly express itself on these matters "so that those who must daily wrestle with questions in these areas may reach their decisions with the benefit of orientation and guideposts of the evangelical ethic."

He expressed hope that the future meeting of theologians, physicians, surgeons, sociologists, psychiatrists and social workers could be held this year.

THE WASHINGTON OBSERVER

By Gerhard Lenski

"WHEN YOU'RE FLYING WORDS"

Washington is learning something these days about the importance of tongue-control. For the most part, the lesson is a hard one to learn. President Eisenhower chides Walter Reuther for holding a union convention in Bermuda at a swanky hotel and Walter gives a stinging hot reply that even the President has trouble to handle. Mrs. Luce makes an injudicious remark about Senator Morse and an Oregon Senator replies with an answer which Mrs. Luce says has "poisoned the atmosphere" and spoiled his future usefulness as Ambassador. Senator Dirksen comes to the lady's rescue with an impromptu speech and manages to say something he will wish his dying day he had left unsaid. And so it goes on—ill-advised statements, sharp and cutting remarks that create wounds that fester and which are slow to heal.

But one good thing is bound to come out of it all—a greater concern on the part of all our public officials to try to guard their speech, to try to exercise self-control, to try to state their side of the case with dignity and without needless hurt to others who may happen to disagree.

The old rhyme we learned in the playground school might well become a motto for all public disputants to follow:

Boys flying kites draw in their white-winged birds:

You can't do that when you're flying words."

CONGRESS AND LABOR REFORM

From all indications some reforms will shortly become laws calculated to correct corruption, abuse and violence in the operations of organized labor. The McClellan hearings have been so revealing that it becomes conceivable that reforms of some sort will not be forthcoming. It is, however, regrettable that the pleas of Senator McClellan, chairman of the

committee dealing with this problem, the one best acquainted with the whole situation, should not have received a stronger support at the hands of his fellows in the Senate. It is understandable, to be sure, that our Senators should have high regard for their labor constituencies and for the rights of the working man, also that they as Senators should realize that offending powerful union leaders might well cost them victory at some coming election. Be that as it may, the average citizen can only wonder with a high degree of apprehension why, with the welfare of the country at stake, political expediency should seem to take precedence over moral principle and why some otherwise brave men should appear to fear the likes of Jimmy Hoffa more than the still, small voice of their own conscience.

Again we confront an issue in which the strong, clear voice of a Christian citizenry is needed. Let Christian people across the land insist that their representatives in the Congress do the thing that needs to be done, clean house as it needs to be cleaned, support right legislation regardless of party or personal advantages. Let enough Christian people so insist and present abuses and evils will be mitigated and corrected and the entire nation—together with organized labor—will be strengthened and benefited.

RELIEF EXPENDITURES DECLINE

It is a pleasure to report that not all government expenditures are rocketing skyward. The gradual rise in Social Security benefits (these benefits presumably cared for by the gradual increase in Social Security taxes) promises to cut down considerably the number of aged cared for by public relief. The Federal grants to our various states for such relief, commonly called old-age assistance, has been running at slightly more than a billion dollars a year. This has been one of the biggest of the non-defense items in the national budget. As the number of needy aged declines, this relief outlay provided by Federal and state

governments will also decline. In fact, an appreciable decline has already been noted, in the most recent month on record to the amount of \$1,300,000, the largest decline for any month in the past nine years.

Our good Uncle Sam may never be able to solve the old-age relief problem in any complete way. But it must be said that he is working hard at this problem and with noteworthy success. He is already doing a job that our churches, with their combined effort and all their concern for the aged, have never been able to do. For all of which let Christian people be very thankful. Let them show their thanks by continuing to be concerned about this human problem, by doing their part as citizens to support their government in its effort.

SOLVING THE PROBLEM OF PLENTY

The surplus wheat problem (one of several such problems now facing the Congress) promises to become still more aggravating. Already billions of dollars are being spent on surplus wheat. Still we confront the fact that the nation's surplus in wheat alone by July 1 will amount to more than a billion and a quarter bushels. Last year's crop was a huge one, larger than expected with a tremendous carry-over. This year's crop will be less than last year's, but still it will exceed consumption and so increase the existing surplus. With \$3 billion thus invested in wheat alone, with foreign nations protesting any dumping of wheat on them that might depress their own markets, with acreage reduction failing to reduce total production, one can only wonder what the answer might be.

Some considerations, though not solutions, need to be kept in mind. This problem is not going to be solved by name-calling or by making scapegoats out of President Eisenhower or Secretary Benson. It is not going to be solved by letting free enterprise (which can sometimes be a cover word for greed and selfishness) run rampant and dictate. It is not going to be solved by pitting the one group against the other in a "survival of the fittest" kind of economic struggle. Deep under all this material problem is a very spiritual one. God is the Giver of our bounty. He gives it for a purpose. Might this not be our real trouble that we have not asked, found or followed His plan and His purposes? Might this not be the real solution that all of us, including the Congress, should now prayerfully ask: "Lord, what wilt Thou have us to do?"

Individual Absolution

By Allan D. Hansen

One day I saw a large ad in one of the metropolitan newspapers of Los Angeles advertising a healing service in the stately St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral. Because the speaker was a conservative man whose books I had read, I was anxious to hear him speak. However, when the entire service was over, the thing that I was most impressed by was the service itself. There were two parts to this service:—one in which the person came forward to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and the second part in which the person came forward again and knelt at the altar rail, while one of the nine officiating clergymen laid his hands on the individual and silently prayed for him. When the service was over I said, "That is exactly what we do at every one of our Communion Services." The

only difference was, of course, that we did not run large ads or have special visiting clergymen, or call them healing services.

For many years I have given the general Absolution, and because I love to pray for the people individually, I have said silent, individual prayers for them as I have laid my hands upon them. Once or twice we have omitted this part of the service, but there has been such a demand for it, that we have gone back to it.

Many pastors have felt that we have had something unique in our Communion Services; and, yet, because of the pressure of time have reluctantly omitted this part of the service. To offset the time element, we have placed the bread wafers and the wine glasses in the trays around the Communion rail. The officiating clergy-

man then says to the communicants "Take, eat; this is the body of Christ" and then all the communicants together pick up a wafer, which is in front of them, and eat. The same is done in serving the Communion wine. As the pastor says, "Take and drink this is the blood of Christ," the communicants pick up the communion glasses in front of them and then drink the Communion wine. When the table is dismissed, the communicants take their empty glasses and leave them on tables, which are placed on the side aisles.

In using this method, we feel that the Communion does not take any more time than in the services where the 'laying on of hands' is not used. I personally feel that we have something here that is unique, scriptural and that should be preserved. The early Apostolic practice of the 'laying on of hands' is almost forgotten. If it has no meaning, let's discard it. However, since it does have great spiritual significance, let us be hesitant in discarding this ancient practice.

Stained Glass Windows in Japan

In America it is not uncommon to see stained glass windows in our churches. But in Japan it is a real novelty. Aside from a few larger cathedral-like church buildings none of the Japanese churches have stained glass windows. The reason is that the Japanese just don't make them yet, they must be imported.

One of the rare churches and certainly the first Lutheran Church in Japan to have stained glass art windows is the Musashino Lutheran Church located in the western part of Tokyo just a block from our Lutheran Theological Seminary.

At the same time the people of the congregation in Tokyo were considering building a new church building the members of the First Lutheran Church in Fremont, Nebraska were wondering how they could best dispose of the stained glass windows from their old church building. Because First Lutheran's new building was much larger and of different architecture from their old building the windows were not usable. Yet they had each been dedicated in memory of former members and friends of First Lutheran. At that time Pastor and Mrs. Paul Johnsen were home on furlough. (First Lutheran is their



home church.) It was unanimously decided to send the windows back to Japan with the Johnsens.

On Sunday, March 8 of this year the largest set of the windows was dedicated at the Tokyo Church. Pastor and Mrs. Johnsen were invited to share in the celebration with the Tokyo congregation. Perhaps the words of thanks from the President of the congregation best reflect the sentiment of the people, "We are ever

thankful to the Fremont congregation for their kind gift. I am sure many people from all over Japan will come to our church just to see these windows. It is our prayer that many more Japanese people will come to know the Good Shepherd represented in the stained glass window even through the gift from our brothers and sisters in America."

The picture shows Pastor Paul Johnsen explaining the windows.

The Church Suffering

Persecuted Church in a Police State

By Bertrand Jordan

Not since the persecutions of the primitive Church in the second and third centuries has the Christian Church suffered so much so long as the present one. And the end is where in sight! There were sporadic attempts to destroy the Church down through the ages, but for the most part these were limited to single countries or to an individual church. The twentieth century has witnessed the greatest effort yet made all around the world by Communism and Communist police states to systematically destroy the Church by one means or another. One of the most dramatic of the struggle now going on between Church and state in the D.D.R. (East Germany). Let's take a close look at these sad events through the witness of Christians who are most intimately concerned—Lutherans living in that happy country.

The rulers of East Germany have devised diabolical schemes to destroy the Christian home and Church with the fell swoop! But let the families themselves tell the story. The two following experiences have been carefully documented with pamphlets smuggled out of Leipzig and confirmed by responsible clergy of the Lutheran Church in Bavaria. For obvious reason we must use fictitious names.

The first family is the Hans Mueller home in Dresden. There is Paul, aged 15, Margaret, aged 21, and Hans Jr., age 11. The family belonged to a Lutheran parish in that city. All three children were baptized in their parish church and attended divine services regularly until 1955, the first year of the D.D.R.'s systematic "five year plan" to destroy both home and church by substituting Communist rituals for Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, and Funerals. In that year Paul saddened the family by announcing that he was fed up with "playing hide and seek" with the local authorities (the Communist rulers of Dresden), and was accepting a two year scholarship for graduate study at Humboldt University in East Berlin on condition that he renounce his church publicly by accepting the Jugendweihe substitute for Confirmation). After that the Mueller family lived under the shadow of the hammer and sickle, but they remained true to their church. After the two year period of study Paul became an agent of the government in his home town and made the

terrible threat that he had plans for Margaret and Hans with or without their consent. An ominous cloud hung over the family. Some months later a Captain of the local Militia began to pay court to Margaret, although he was as repulsive to her as a reptile. Soon the Captain proposed marriage, again with or without her consent, since the older brother had consented and that was all that mattered now.

That night Margaret prayed together with the family for the last time, and gathering up a few belongings disappeared into the night. About two weeks later she appeared at the Zonal Border patrolled by American troops. An American sergeant and his men heard gun fire and went up to investigate; a stray bullet hit their jeep so they returned the fire, whereupon all was quiet. Upon closer inspection our troops saw a body lying right on the border with a wound that turned out to be superficial. It was Margaret who was still alive. It was love at first sight between Margaret and our sergeant. The following summer the happy couple appeared in my office in Munich for a Pre-marital interview as required by military law in a foreign country. Here in the privacy of the office Margaret told her story, much of which was new to her fiancé. It was one of the happiest marriages I was ever called upon to perform.

Family number two, the Gerhardt Schneiders with little Elsa, age 8, elected to flee, largely for Elsa's sake. They lived in the former Sudetenland area of Czechoslovakia, annexed by Hitler before WWII. Since Berlin, though safer as an escape route, was too far away; they tried the closest border, that between Bavaria and their own country. Elsa and her mother were successful; the father was not. Let Elsa tell it in her own way. I first met her and her mother at the Innere Mission Distribution Center in Munich. Elsa was a very pretty little girl and I picked her up in my arms. She began playing with my Chaplains' crosses (which all Christian Chaplains wear), and asked me what they meant. In her own language I explained to her that I was a Lutheran pastor serving with American soldiers. Immediately she exclaimed: "Oh you poor man you, must you suffer so much as our own pastors back home do?" (!) The truth was difficult for her to understand, since

This is the second of three articles by Pastor Jordan of McNabb, Ill.

she had been in free Bavaria only three weeks.

I asked her if she believed in the Lord Jesus. She answered: "yes, I do." She explained that "Mutti taught me all about Jesus secretly, since my teacher told me in school that Jesus was a big 'bogeyman' let loose to scare little girls, that the good fathers, Lenin, Ulbricht, and Grotewald (the last named two are the Communist bosses of the D.D.R.) are the only gods that we should believe in!" The teacher impressed upon Elsa's heart the law that she should never use the Name of Jesus, only that of Lenin, etc. When I asked her where her father was, she replied: "The bad men shot at us when we crossed over, daddy fell and never got up again..." Mrs. Schneider was a school teacher until expelled by the government for "deviationism"; she now faces a new life in the West.

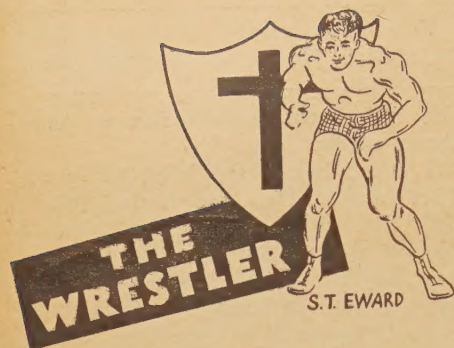
Quite obviously the Communists' chief weapon against the church is the infamous Jugendweihe. As of 1958 some 50% of the Lutheran youth submitted to this rite rather than church confirmation. Reason: the penalty for non-submission to Communist Jugendweihe means being barred from all public schools higher than the Volksschule (about 7 or 8th grade), plus being shut off from all employment other than the most menial jobs.

Bishop Lilje of Hannover, Germany stated in an interview during his recent tour of the United States that this year more than 90% of the young people submitted to the Communist rite. Rather than lose her young people altogether, the Church is working out some kind of compromise, whereby the youth may pay lip service to Communism and be secretly confirmed by the Church. Let us not pre-judge these suffering fellow Lutherans. Undoubtedly this is what the great German hymn writer, Johann Heermann, had in mind when he wrote this great missionary hymn:

"O Christ, our true and only light,
Illumine those who sit in night.
... who dare not yet the faith avow,
Though secretly they hold it now."

A closing word about the Berlin situation, where this struggle is highlighted in one divided city. Even a short stay in that great city will convince any American that our own government is fully justified in its stand to hold on to the city at any cost. This is the only place in the whole world where only the width of one street separates the free world from the police state. The contrast

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CONGREGATIONS ARE ENROLLING

Reports have been received revealing that congregations of the UELC are enrolling in the "sector" program for Stewardship in all areas of the USA. Sector leaders are being trained for the service in the conferences.

Letters explaining the program and procedure have gone to all of the pastors with enrollment cards. To enroll, a congregation need only return the card to the ELC Dept. of Stewardship, 422 S. Fifth St., Minneapolis, Minn. with one dollar. When this is done a kit containing sample materials for the congregation will be sent. Only congregations that enroll will receive the sample kit.

Enrollment does not commit a congregation beyond this. It may drop out if it so wishes. Its only commitment is to send delegates to the conference clinics for training so that they may serve more effectively in the parish in seeking commitments for the church's program during the fall canvass of the membership.

Congregations that may be hesitant to enroll need not be. They have everything to gain, and only a dollar to lose. Some of the advantages of taking part in the program are:

1. They will gain impetus from the cooperative activity. A congregation may benefit much by knowing that it is carrying on with other parishes in the neighborhood.
2. They will learn much about how to manage the organization of a canvass. New ideas about promotion and interpretation will be received.
3. Much of the usual burden carried by the pastor in matters such as this can be given to other leaders in the parish, thus releasing the pastor's hands for other work.
4. Basic theological foundations for stewardship in a congregation will be laid at sector training clinics.

Washington News Notes

CAPTIVATING CRIPPLE

The hearts of Washington were captured when a charming Lutheran lady from Jamestown North Dakota, arrived in town. It wasn't just a pleasure trip, for this member of the American Lutheran Church had come to the nation's capital to receive the eighth annual "President's Trophy." In so doing she was named the "Handicapped American of the Year." At Jamestown, Dr. Anne H. Carlsen is superintendent of the Crippled Children's School and attends St. John's Lutheran church there.

Born without feet or hands, she climaxed a lifetime of dedicated service to those who like herself are handicapped, by receiving the distinguished award from Vice President Nixon. Leaning on her crutches as she accepted the plaque from Mr. Nixon, she said "I take this as a symbol of the help which I have received from many people . . ."

She left Washington, but not until all who came within view had received a radiant smile and an understanding look from her happy eyes which conveyed better than words: "I am a child of God."

A BETTER COUNTRY LIFE?

There is an old saying around Washington that persistence begets legislation. If this is true, Congressman Albert Quie of Minnesota is on the right track. Representative Quie is a member of Grace Lutheran Church at Nerstrand, Minn., and is a farmer who is familiar with rural problems. Because of his close association with this phase of American life he is introducing for the second time a bill which, if enacted, would create a "Commission on Country Life." The purpose of such a commission would be to compile an objective set of data which can be

used to preserve for rural people the wholesome life to which they are accustomed and yet allow them to accept the rapid changes non-urban America is undergoing.

Mr. Quie told his fellow Congressmen that the first "Commission on Country Life" initiated fifty-one years ago by President Theodore Roosevelt crystallized sociological changes. From this came the great farm cooperative and organizations which have played such a conspicuous part in rural development. Attributing the 4-H movement to the effects of that study over half a century ago, he is making a vigorous plea on Capitol Hill to take a new look at country life. The Minnesota Congressman hopes that if this is done, a sounder footing will be given to this phase of the nation's way of life.

G. I. BILL: POST KOREAN VETERANS?

Educational benefits under the "G. I. Bill of Rights" have been a boon to countless veterans. Thousands of young Americans have become teachers, scientists, engineers, pastors, lawyers through the Readjustment Act passed in 1944 and 1952. But those who have enlisted or been drafted during the post-Korean "cold war" period have not been eligible for such help.

The Veterans Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Affairs has been holding hearings on a bill to extend similar benefits to those serving in the armed forces since the Korean War. Witnesses pointed out that with draft calls low this would reduce the inequality between those who serve and those who do not by compensating for the disruptive effect of compulsory service.

—By Robert Van Deusen and Charles De Vries

Total of 71,135,068 Lutherans in World

Lutherans in the world total 71,135,068, about one-third of Protestantism, it was reported at Geneva by the Lutheran World Federation.

Of this number, the LWF said, 49,894,688 represent the combined baptized membership of its 61 affiliated churches in 32 countries. Federation officials predicted that this figure will pass the 50-million-mark before the end of 1959.

An additional 6,510 are members of eight LWF-recognized congregations in South American countries where a general Lutheran church body has yet been formed, bringing the total Lutherans in the federation to 49,901,198.

The over-all figure a year ago was 70,753,389, of whom 642,184 were in LWF member Churches.

Lutheran church bodies and congregations outside the LWF have, in the aggregate, 5,638,793 members. Of these, 2,351,805 belong to the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod of North America, the largest Lutheran body not affiliated with the federation.

Another 15,595,077 Lutherans are found in union churches of Germany. In that country, the homeland of Martin Luther, are counted a total of 37,252,486 Lutherans—more than in the entire rest of the world combined.

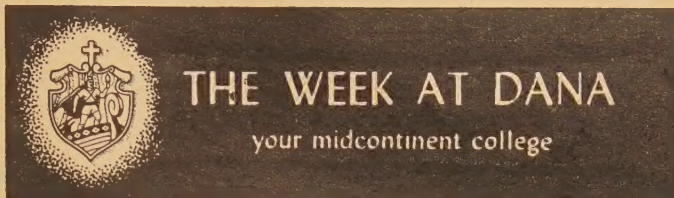
Six other countries report more than a million Lutherans each, the United States holding second place with 7,627,738, based on 1957 statistics, and Sweden third with 7,000,000. Denmark is fourth with 4,304,000, Finland fifth with 4,234,244, and Norway sixth with 3,735,523.

More than 80 percent of the world Lutherans live in Europe, where the continental total is 59,416,587. North America (with the Caribbean islands) comes second with 8,022,400, while Asia and Africa (and their adjacent lands) follow with 1,453,828 and 1,178,968, respectively.

South America has 779,844 Lutherans, and Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea together have 282,901.

Since Germany's 37 million Lutherans are distributed among numerous territorial Churches (Landeskirchen) and American Lutherans are similarly divided into numerous autonomous synodical units, the largest single Lutheran body in the world is the Church of Sweden, with over seven million members.

Second largest is one of the German bodies, the Lutheran Church of Saxony, with 4,413,699, third is the Church of Denmark, and fourth is that of Finland. Next come Germany's Church of Hannover, with 3,770,000, and then the Church of Norway.



DANA TO GRADUATE 40

Dana College, Blair, will graduate 40 seniors at the Diamond Jubilee Commencement May 24. Eleven states are represented in the graduating class.

The candidates for the Bachelors degree are:

BACHELOR OF ARTS degree: Patricia Andersen, Ferndale, Calif.; Richard Bock, Papillion, Nebr.; Wendell Hendricksen, Royal, Iowa; Larry Jorgensen, Papillion, Nebr.; Donald King, Blair, Nebr.; Gail Koldenborg, Kenosha, Wis.; Mary Virginia Korshoj, Blair, Nebr.; Ernest Larsen, Underwood, Iowa; Walter Ludwigsen, Milwaukee, Wis.; Carol Madsen, Kenmare, N. Dak.; Malcolm Pedersen, Tomah, Wis.; Karen Petersen, Eugene, Oregon; David Smith, Blair, Nebr.; Camilla Watt, Buffalo, Wyoming.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE degree: Mary Jo Andrews, Blair, Nebr.; Bartel Borglum, Penn Yan, N. Y.; Richard Jorgensen, Poy Sippi, Wis.; David Oestreich, Missouri Valley, Iowa; Ronald Siersbeck, Indianapolis, Ind.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION degree: Jack Davies, Orinda, Calif.; Harold Holm II, Racine, Wis.; Roger Madsen, Ottosen, Iowa; Thomas Nielsen, Racine, Wis.; George Olsen, Miles City, Montana; Sandra Thomsen, Omaha, Nebr.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION degree: Bertha Andersen, Elk Horn, Iowa; Ernest Andersen, Evan, Minn.; John Blatter, Blair, Nebr.; Carmen Craig, Omaha, Nebr.; William Davis, Omaha, Nebr.; Edward Ellis, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Ronald Huston, Omaha, Nebr.; Richard Jensen, Milligan, Nebr.; Susan Jorgensen, Milltown, Wis.; Don Kruse, Omaha, Nebr.; John Linahan, Omaha, Nebr.; Frederick Murrell, Geneva, Nebr.; Harlan Petersen, Frederic, Wis.; Lee Ramage, Omaha, Nebr.; Terry Wichert, Bellevue, Nebr.

ANDERSEN IN RECITAL

The Dana College Music Department will present Patricia M. Andersen of Ferndale, California, in her senior piano recital at the Alumni Memorial Auditorium on Friday, May 22, at 8:30 P.M.

During her four years at Dana College, Pat has accompanied all major musical presentations, including Brahms' Requiem and Handel's Messiah.

She was guest soloist for the 1958 Spring Dana College Band Tour. Pat has been studying piano under Prof. Paul E. Neve.

The recital is open to the public.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

Disagrees on Dancing

A Reply to the Youth Director

The church must not have bake sales of rich Danish pastries and must not have church suppers because many people are tempted to obesity (which is ruining their "temple of the Holy Spirit") and thus the church would be giving offense to these weaker brethren.

Church people must not dress beautifully because some people are sorely tempted by vanity and therefore church people might cause brothers and sisters to stumble.

The church must not hold any property or have any appointments and equipment that are not absolutely necessary to salvation because some people are sorely tempted by greed, and if the church acquires any property, then this would prove harmful to the morals of some people.

The church must not serve wine at communion for some people could potentially become alcoholics and thus the church would be giving offense.

The church should forbid movies and television for these media have proven harmful to the morals of some people.

The church should go back to forbidding the playing of tenpins (bowling) as it did in the Puritan days for some people are greatly tempted to leisure pursuits instead of spiritual joys.

The church should go back to the old Quaker custom of separate seats for men and women because some people are greatly tempted by the sight and closeness of the opposite sex.

The church and Luther League should forbid hayrides and night campfire services and swimming at Bible camps for some youth are too excited by the close presence of the opposite sex.

What is the point of the above statements? It is to point out that the church should be consistent. Mr. George Robertson in his clinching argument against church sponsored dancing said, "Because dancing has proven harmful to the morals of some, I am convinced that dances should not be sponsored by the League or church."

Is this consistent reasoning? All the above statements on bake sales, communion wine, etc., could be substituted

for the word "dancing" in that sentence: "Because _____ has proven harmful to the morals of some, I am convinced that _____ should not be sponsored by the League or church." Either let the church be consistent in its forbidding possible harmful influences as the Mennonite or Amish Church does, or else let it be moderate in all things.

Secondly, Mr. Robertson says that the duty of the League is "to warn young people about the dangers not only of dancing, but of any form of entertainment which excites sinful desire," and that the duty of the League is also "to offer a better form of entertainment than dancing—Entertainment in which all can participate without pangs of conscience, but with purity of heart."

Here I think that Mr. Robertson is unrealistic about sex and desire. First, dancing may perhaps excite desire but is this necessarily sinful? Secondly, I doubt that there is any such thing as a form of "entertainment in which all can participate with purity of heart." For example, I have sat in the rear seats at Luther League meetings and heard some boys make whispered sexual and desirous comments about girls' figures when these girls were acting out religious pantomimes or singing camp songs or other innocent activities. And after an evening of "pure" games, some of the boys would still get together in a group and discuss the desirous aspects of the girls. And a group of League girls spent part of an "innocent" League meeting whispering and giggling over possible sexual implications in hymn titles.

Therefore, as Mr. Robertson phrased it so well, the evil is not in the thing or recreation itself, but in the heart.

Thirdly, I believe that the question of dancing (or any other recreation) being sponsored by the church or League should be based on the need for it. For example, if the church or League is located in a suburb or town in which there are Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, F.F.A., F.H.A., Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., a wholesome teen age center, and many other high school sponsored recre-

ional facilities, then there is no need for the church sponsor dancing or much other recreation. In this type of situation, the League should concentrate on Christian service projects, religious dramatics, Bible study and discussion, etc. But in an isolated rural or backward community or in the city slums, for example, where there are few if any high school or community sponsored recreational facilities, then I believe it is the duty of the church to sponsor recreation, including properly supervised and restricted dancing.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The author of the above reply requested that her name be withheld. In printing the article the editor does not indicate approval or disapproval of the position stated therein. The original article and this reply, however, do raise certain questions:

1. What is meant by the term "dance"? It is a broad term covering activities both acceptable and unacceptable.
2. Can there be true freedom without restrictions?
3. Is the essence of consistency of the inward spirit or the outward action? If it is the former, we will have to admit that others who are Christians can act differently than we, and they must not justify themselves by pointing to inconsistencies in our conduct but through faithfulness to their Lord.

Youth Office Bulletin Board

NOTICE OF MEETING

THE SYNODICAL YOUTH BOARD WILL MEET THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH, AT 9:00 A.M., IN SIDNEY, MONTANA. ALL DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE PRESIDENTS OR THEIR PASTORAL ADVISORS, SYNODICAL LUTHER LEAGUE OFFICERS, AND THE TWO LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED AT THE CONVENTION IN FRESNO ARE URGED TO BE PRESENT.

WHO SLIPPED? DID YOU

LAST YEAR AT THIS TIME 24 CONGREGATIONS HAD ORDERED 239 GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "ONE" MAGAZINE FOR CONFIRMANDS. THIS YEAR THE NUMBER HAS DROPPED TO 19 CONGREGATIONS ORDERING 193 GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS. THE TREND SHOULD BE THE OTHER WAY! PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF CONFIRMANDS IN YOUR CHURCH ARE RECEIVING GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS. TAKE STEPS TO HAVE THEM ORDERED NOW. "ONE" IS THE CHRISTIAN MAGAZINE FOR YOUTH. ORDER FROM CHRISTIAN YOUTH PUBLICATIONS, 422 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Witnessing for Christ at Home

By Janet Nordmeyer

If someone were to visit your home, it would take but a few brief moments for them to sense the atmosphere of it. One glance around the room will give them their first impression. If they see dirty, cheap literature and vulgar pictures and statues, they will know you are not a Christian. But, on the other hand, good books, Christian Literature, a Bible, and wholesome pictures witness for Christ.

The second impression will be based upon the way in which you greet them. A genuine feeling of Christian love toward them should shine through you. Christ was never cutting, sarcastic, or false, but rather sincere in His concern for others. We should learn from Christ!

When I think of the word "witnessing," I think of Christians witnessing mostly by word of mouth. But you witness by more than just words. You show whether you have Christ in your life by the kind of clothes you wear, the kind of recreation you choose, the attitude that you have to your family and friends, the manners

you have, the things you talk about and the things you do.

There is no place for bickering and fighting in a Christian home. If there are misunderstandings or hurt feelings, they can be corrected by the Christian attitude of forgiveness or by putting the best construction on what other people say and do. Guests in your home or neighbors across the fence with their windows and ears open will certainly not be admiring your Christian attitude if you are fighting.

Saying a prayer before meals and not being embarrassed or ashamed of it before guests is witnessing for Christ. Having your own devotions is witnessing even though it is only to your brothers and sisters.

A good Christian spirit in the home is contagious. It can even spread from home to home. But it all begins and continues with you!

(This is the second of a series of three articles on witnessing prepared by the leaguers of St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Whittier, California. —J.W.N.)

BY THE FIRESIDE

THE RIGHT SIDE OF LIFE

Life is a strange, two-sided thing,
 A dirge to chant, or a song to sing;
 A sad, cold world, or a thrilling place,
 A tough old grind, or an exciting race;
 A drudge-filled chore, or a challenging dare,
 A thorny bush, or a flower fair;
 A task to do or a chance to give,
 A day to spend or a life to live.

—William A. Ward, Watchman-Examiner

NIGHTMARE TOWN

It's a bad dream . . . the bad dream of anyone who stops to think about it . . . this town visited by a catastrophe it didn't even know was happening.

It came about very simply: all the men and women whose devotion and effort had kept the churches in repair and in use began to act like other people—give their time and money to sports, parties, bridge, travel.

"Good recreation!" they said. "After a week's hard work, we're entitled to a little innocent amusement."

There was no one to disagree, for everyone else had been doing the same thing for years.

It was strange, at first, without the church bells—and the church buildings showed the effects quite promptly: peeling paint, ragged grass and weeds. With the usual storms, and an occasional fire set by mischievous boys, within a year or two, Nightmare Town was without a single habitable house of worship—without a baptismal font, or a chapel in which to be married, or from which to be buried.

Some of the parents who hadn't been in church since they were married at first complained about the lack of facilities for the religious instruction of their children. Nobody did anything about it, so they gradually subsided.

Nightmare Town is now practically complete, with two or three ruined churches in every mile. Not many people come here any more. Our most substantial citizens are bitter about business conditions, and say property is virtually unsalable.

People seem to have lost their capacity for enjoyment, just when they were ready to make the most of it.

It's like a bad dream.

—Religion in American Life, Inc.

SHUN DEBT

Let it be your first care not to be in any man's debt. Resolve not to be poor; whatever you have, spend less. Poverty is a great enemy to human happiness; it certainly destroys liberty, and it makes some virtues impracticable and others extremely difficult. Frugality is not only the basis of quiet, but of beneficence. No man can help others that wants help himself; we must have enough before we have to spare.

—Dr. Johnson

THE SEED

By Julian S. Cutler

Isn't it wonderful, when you think
 How a little seed, asleep
 Out of the earth new life will drink,
 And carefully upward creep?
 A seed, we say, is a simple thing,
 The germ of a flower or weed—
 But all earth's workmen, laboring,
 With all the help that wealth could bring,
 Never could make a weed.

GOOD FELLOW AT HEART!

Sin is not a popular word these days. We avoid its use by using many fancy verbal wrappings, and there seems to be a conviction abroad that improved education and social conditions will eventually rid us of the bogey. The home of realism is still the Christian Church, which persists in believing that the heart of man in his natural state is desperately wicked and his will perverted, and that no amount of changes in his social environment or in the methods whereby he is educated will necessarily produce any improvement. Indeed, confidence in these supposedly curative agencies may well increase the disease. Supernatural grace alone, by which we mean power which comes to man from outside himself, from God, can

remedy the trouble. Such sentiments as these are of course nauseating to the humanists who still believe that every man is really a good fellow at heart and that if his natural bent is fostered and encouraged it will in time next to no time turn him into an archangel! On the contrary it is our belief that a man's natural bent is a selfish one. He was made "in the image of God" and he has not altogether lost that stamp. There is enough of it left to give man a sense of kinship with God and to enable him to respond when God recalls him to the original standard through Jesus Christ.

—D.J.W.B.

SIT ON THE LID AND LAUGH

By Orville W. Lawson

Go build for your worries a strong box;
 Have every part strengthened with care;
 When as strong as your efforts can make it
 Corral all your troubles right there
 Store it in all thoughts of failure
 And each bitter cup that you quaff
 Lock all your heartaches within it
 Then—
 sit on the lid
 and laugh!
 Tell never a soul of its contents;
 Its secrets no other must share;
 When you've packed in your sore tribulations,
 And you've left not even a "spare"
 All hidden from view so completely
 That the old world will never dream half—
 When all your worries are sorted and sealed,
 Then—
 sit on the lid
 and laugh!

The latest one about the proverbial absent-minded professor concerns an Oxford gentleman who woke up one morning with the thought that he had forgotten to attend a very important social function the previous Friday. He rushed to the telephone and called his hostess. His apologies were profuse and sincere. "Don't worry, professor," said the hostess. "You were there."

Student (leaving college): "Goodbye, sir, I am indebted to you for all I know."

Prof.: "Don't mention such a trifle."

"Yes, I'll give you a job. Sweep out the store."

"But I'm a college graduate."

"Okay, I'll show you how."

Two Million Youngsters Will Have Court Records Before 18

Two million American youngsters who are now in the ages between 10 and 17 will have court records before they are 18, if the present trend in juvenile delinquency continues, the special Senate subcommittee investigating juvenile delinquency reported in Washington, D. C.

"Stated plainly, one out of five of today's male adolescents in this age group will have a court record," said Sen. Thomas C. Hennings, Jr., (D-Mo.), chairman of the investigating group.

The number of children appearing before juvenile courts for delinquency has increased two and one-half times since 1949, while child population was increasing only 25 per cent, Sen. Hennings warned.

Projecting the "unremitted nine-year increase" in youthful offenders against an anticipated 48 per cent increase in the number of children, there will be 1,400,000 children appearing before juvenile judges in the year 1970, compared with 603,000 in 1957, the last year for which complete records are available.

The report further cautioned that the record of delinquents brought be-

fore courts tells only part of the picture. As an example of the problem of "hidden delinquents," the Senate subcommittee cited the small number of juveniles apprehended for vandalism against "the high cost of the country's annual vandalism bill."

On the basis of a month-long study of the public school system of New York City, the subcommittee warned that schools are being "overwhelmed" by the sheer numbers of children they are expected to teach and that thousands of children are being led into paths of delinquent and criminal behavior by "delinquent, psychopathic, and prepsychotic children."

These children have been foisted on school systems because communities are unable or unwilling to provide services and facilities to handle them," Sen. Hennings declared.

"In view of the serious threat to our educational system and its law-abiding students who are being denied full benefits of an adequate education," he said the subcommittee is drafting model legislation for local school systems faced with the problem of "incurable behavior."

Their principle of simplicity leaves them the financial means to give unselfish service beyond the walls of their meeting houses. Let us not be deceived by 'plastic myths' or other gobbledygook. In a world madly preparing to blow itself to hell, in a world wherein dwell billions of desperately needy, our churches have every responsibility to put emotional feeling and artistic pride second and to get on with the main work of Christ, which is building houses not made with hands." Anton Nelson's is the spirit of the missionary who serves and does not ask to rule or dominate.

—Christian Century

THE CHURCH SUFFERING

(Continued from page 7)

between the two cities is so glaring that one can understand the Russian viewpoint, even though we must reject it. Free Berlin is extremely prosperous with bulging stores and a healthy economy. East Berlin is shabby, still more than half in ruins, the streets empty of traffic, even of pedestrians! The so-called showplace of East Berlin, Stalin Allee (formerly Unter den Linden), is only a cheap hoax, for behind the beautiful facades (only a few yards deep) are dirty ruins, filth and squalor in which stray dogs and hungry children roam in search of food.

More than 80% of the refugees use Berlin to escape to the West, where five subway lines move freely between the divided city, "the five cent subway ride to freedom!" God alone knows how much longer this situation will be permitted to exist. West Berlin's energetic and freedom-loving mayor, Herr Willie Brandt epitomized his city's and country's struggle for existence in Springfield, Illinois on Abraham Lincoln's birthday in these famous words of our great emancipator: "Our nation cannot long endure half free and half slave!" The whole of Christendom sympathizes with a Suffering Church, when with the Prophet Isaiah (6:11) it asks: "O Lord, how long?" Yea verily, how long, O Lord; how long?

The manager was interviewing a likely applicant for a job. But he had one prejudice about his staff.

"Are you a clock-watcher?" he asked.

"No," the man replied. "I never worked at an inside job. I'm a whistle-listener."

Poor Billions Take a Dim View of New Churches

Speaking for 2 billions of the world's poor, an American in Africa indicts current American standards of ecclesiastical display. For the past four years Anton Nelson has been employed by the Meru tribe of Tanganyika as business manager of their coffee growers cooperative. By trade a builder, he is a member of a Lutheran church in San Jose, California, a mountain climber, a pacifist and a worker for interracial understanding. After reading The Christian Century's architectural issue (February 19) he writes from Usa River, Tanganyika: "When some of us Americans working among the 2 billion poor folks over on this side, for whom Christ also died, see the latest rash of U. S. church building, costing hundreds of dollars per church member, it is enough to make us depressed. Many congregations spend so much of their total effort on costly material shrines that they have little strength left for their spiritual mission. A fine church building is one way a congregation may show its devotion for all to see and

measure, but to a needy world gazing at slick color photos in their mud huts it is about as inspiring as the gaudy, crude show-offness demonstrated by the cockeyed fins and flashy chrome on American cars. Church design may be an end in itself for architects; it never can be for Christians. Church design has become a fine plum for the architectural fraternity, whose main rule in a competitive economy is to build something spectacular and distinctive to blow up the architect's fame and thus land more customers. One expects an architect 'to give expression to the spirit of the times,' but in a corrupt, violent and revolutionary age, is this the business of the body of Christ? Is it not the church's function to serve the spiritual needs of God's children, to reflect a spirit of truth and righteousness, rather than to compete in art? Perhaps we could learn from the Quakers, whose physical housing seldom dazzles the passer-by or the worshiper into identifying outer glory with the inner light of God's truth.

	Fiscal Yr. 1959		Calendar Yr. 1959
	Luth. Work		Action
	Total	Synodical	
Budget			
Forward Phase			\$53101.0
Previously acknowledged	\$11149.80		\$11149.8
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$400, Forward Phase \$100	500.00	500.00	
Pasadena, Calif., Bethany Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. A. Winden and Miss Barbara Mutza, each \$10 for Japan Mission	20.00	20.00	
Aurora, Colo., Altura Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	140.00	140.00	
Cedar Falls, Ia., Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jensen in memory of Rev. N. Benson for Sudan Mission	5.00	5.00	
Council Bluffs, Ia., Mrs. Christine Peterson and Mrs. David Aten in memory of Mrs. W. M. Christoffersen, Underwood, Iowa, for LWA	4.00		4.0
Rolfe, Ia., St. Paul's Luth. Church for LWA	163.50		163.
Harlan, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Church 1958-59 Forward Phase Quota in full	986.40	986.40	
Spencer, Ia., Women of Bethany, Bethany Luth. Church for Japan Mission \$39.89, Sudan Mission \$39.89	79.78	79.78	
Chicago, Ill., Atonement Luth. S. S. for Foreign Missions \$27.22, T.B. Hospital in India, Santal, \$35	62.22	62.22	
Lake Forest, Ill., Marie B. Larsen for Dana College Development \$200*			
Hutchinson, Minn., Faith Luth. Church for LWA \$253.40, T.B. Unit at Mohupahari Hospital \$79.47	332.87	79.47	253.4
Minneapolis, Minn., Immanuel Luth. Church in memory of Eli Karen Seversen and Oscar Jensen for Foreign Missions	20.00	20.00	
Sidney, Mont., Mrs. Johanne Hansen for LWA	2.00		2.0
Westby, Mont., Mr. and Mrs. Peter Andersen for LWA	10.00		10.0
Lincoln, Nebr., Synodical Treasurer, Women's Missionary Society:			
Wisconsin District			
Trinity Ladies Aid, Waupaca, Life Membership for Mrs. Reuben Danielsen for Japan Mission (M. Paulsen)	6.75	6.75	
Illinois District			
St. Thomas Ladies Aid and Mission Society, Trufant, Life Memberships for Mrs. E. P. Bunce, Mrs. Oscar Christensen and Mrs. Rudolph Nelsen for Gen. For. Missions	20.25	20.25	
WMS, St. Paul's, Greenville, for Gen. For. Missions	33.86	33.86	
WMS, Golgotha, Chicago, Japan (Tadashi Hari)	150.00	150.00	
North Dakota-Montana District			
Pella Ladies Aid, Sidney, Life Membership for Mrs. Karl Hundtoft for Sudan Mission	6.75	6.75	
Pacific District			
Our Savior's Ladies Aid, Caruthers, Life Membership for Mrs. Emma Terkelsen and Mrs. Gunda Krogh for Japan Mission (M. Paulsen)	13.50	13.50	
Iowa District			
Our Savior's WOC, Council Bluffs, Life Memberships for Mrs. Martin Hedegaard, Mrs. Gustav Axelsen, Mrs. Vernon Jensen and Mrs. Jeppe Bundgaard for Japan Mission (M. Paulsen)	27.00	27.00	
Life Membership for Miss Palma Petersen for Children's Homes	6.75	6.75	
Circuit No. 4, Iowa District for Sudan Mission (Wahlgren) \$28.04, Japan (M. Paulsen) \$14, Gen. For. Missions \$14	56.04	56.04	
Circuit 5, Iowa District for Sudan (Wahlgren) \$57.35, Japan (M. Paulsen) \$28.67, Gen. For. Missions \$28.67	114.69	114.69	
Circuit 2, Iowa District for Sudan (Wahlgren) \$62.50, Japan (M. Paulsen) \$31.25, Gen. For. Missions \$31.25	125.00	125.00	
Nebraska District			
Luth. Guild, Lincoln, Life Membership for Mrs. Charles Cone, Japan Mission (M. Paulsen)	6.75	6.75	
Orum, Nebr., Immanuel Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	60.00	60.00	
Castro Valley, Calif., Dr. M. Hunter Smith for support of Pastor A. Moreck and the Colombia Mission	130.00	130.00	
Denver, Colo., Christ the King Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	258.30	258.30	
Elk Horn, Ia., Elk Horn Luth. S. S. for Santal Mission	31.90	31.90	
Moorhead, Ia., Bethesda Luth. Church in mem. of Harvey E. Larson, Ute, Ia., for Home Miss.	10.00	10.00	
Westbrook, Me., Trinity Luth. Church in memory of Pastor Chr. Christensen, Laurens, N. Y., for Foreign Missions	10.00	10.00	
Westbrook, Maine, Trinity Luth. church, Given in memory of Mrs. Marie Hansen by Rasmus Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Leo, Mata Davidson, Alice Sinclair, Delma Brownlee, Folmer Sweet, Irving Sweet, Myrtle Wiedman, Margaret Knowles, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Petersen, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Axel C. Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Mickus, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Swan, Mrs. Marion Small, Irving Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Brix, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brix, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Christiansen, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Christiansen, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Arndt Kloth, Mr. and Mrs. Christian Winther, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Estes, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Percy Martin, Mrs. Annie Jensen, Esther Jensen, Mrs. Anna Kloth, Mrs. Dagmar Christensen, Mrs. Christine Pepper, Mr. and Mrs. Jorgen Sorensen, Mr. and Mrs. Emmert Christensen, Mr. and Mrs. Laurids Warming, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Warming, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Billings, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Wallace \$66*			
In memory of Mrs. Marie Hansen by Niels Smith, Abbie Nelson, Jennie Nelson, Mrs. Mary Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Jensen, Magna Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Nelson for Brazil, South Am. Miss.	13.00	13.00	
In memory of Mrs. Marie Hansen by Mrs. Anna Broe, Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Chittick, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Aaskov, Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Smith, Mrs. Elisa Aaskov, Mrs. Hans Smith, Mrs. Harry Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Jewell for LWA	11.00		11.00
Davey, Nebr., Nazareth Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	100.00	100.00	
Kenmare, N. Dak., Mr. and Mrs. Percl Peterson in memory of Harry Frederickson for Foreign Missions	1.00	1.00	
Norma, N. Dak., Zion Luth. Church for LWA	28.35		28.35
Eugene, Ore., Lydia Andersen in memory of Mrs. Anna Isaacsen for LWA	10.00		10.00
Viborg, S. Dak., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson in memory of Mr. John P. Jensen, West Liberty, Iowa, for LWA	2.00		2.00
Viborg, S. Dak., Mrs. Lawrence Tanderup and Erland Tanderup in memory of Ole R. Olson for Home Missions	1.00	1.00	
Waupaca, Wis., Trinity Luth. Church, Bethel Ladies Aid in memory of Christena Jensen for Home Missions	2.00	2.00	
W. Canada Dist. Treas., Standard, Alta., Canada:			
Dannevirke Ev. Luth. Church, Redvers, for Synod. Quota	30.00	30.00	
TOTALS	\$14741.46	**\$3107.41	\$11634.05

* Not included in Synodical Quota.

** Included in this amount are special gifts for Forward Phase amounting to \$1,086.40.

Basic Principles Approved for The ALC's 1st Budget

Basic principles covering a unified, inclusive budget for the operation of The American Lutheran Church when it begins to function in 1961 were approved in Blair, Nebr. by the Joint Union Committee of the three church bodies that will establish the 10,000-member denomination.

Action was taken after Dr. George Schultz, secretary of the JUC's budget committee, had presented the proposed principles through the use of skillfully devised legends and drawings mounted on cardboard.

Dr. Schultz, who is director of stewardship and finance for the American Lutheran Church, outlined the governing principles that underlie the proposal for this inclusive type budget. These are:

1) A budget is a guide to spending; it should guide total spending. 2) A budget should tell the church what program is; it should tell the whole church's program. 3) A budget is the church's tangible approval of work; it should approve all the work, therefore, all expenditures. 4) A budget should recognize a desire to give specific gifts—and include their use in the church's program. 5) Congregations should receive "benevolence credit" not only for "budget" gifts but for support of all the church's approved work.

Dr. Schultz explained that these guiding principles are concerned primarily not with the "how much" but

with the "how" of the budget, and that although the budget is not to be a motivational medium it should be a promotional medium.

The key to understanding the proposed budget, he added, is that the budget defines expenditures—not income. Accordingly, in this new concept, the term "budget" means "the total of congregational contributions." And a "budgetary gift" denotes "a gift for any work for which the church has authorized the expenditures of funds."

Total budgets of the three uniting bodies—the Evangelical Lutheran Church, American Lutheran Church and United Evangelical Lutheran Church—for the present year, based on expenditures, are about \$15,500,000, the budget committee reported. When based on the total contributions from congregations alone, these budgets total \$14,076,000.

The figure of \$15,000,000 was cited to give the Joint Union Committee some idea of the first budget of The ALC, which will be divided into three phases—Current, Operation and Cooperation, and Forward.

The JUC instructed the budget committee to call a meeting in the early fall to which representatives of the boards of the new Church would be invited and at which there would be a "full scale review" of how the approved principles will work out in setting up the budgets of the several boards.

and theologian. A number of books about the church have appeared from the Lutheran point of view. It is therefore well for the Lutheran pastor to read about the church from the Reformed point of view. It might help him to understand the Reformed churches better, and it may also help him to make the men in the non-Lutheran churches more aware of the true nature of their own church.

Planned Parenthood

By Alfred M. Rehwinkel, Concordia Publ. House, 119 pages, \$2.25.

This Mo. Lutheran author has written a good book on a subject that needs to be discussed. He speaks an authoritative and a courageous No and Yes where they should be spoken. He places restraint where it should be placed. He applies exangelical freedom where it should be applied. It is a realistic book written in a wholesome spirit.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from page 16)

Couples Clubs on Increase

Church clubs serving married couples are on the increase according to a survey made recently by the Family Life Committee of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

In the 5,000 congregations of the Synod there are 1,800 married couples clubs compared with 800 in 1949. Of this total, 797 serve young adults between the ages of 24 and 40. A total of 372 are designed for adults 40 years and older. Both young and older adults were served by 997 such groups, the survey revealed. A total of 64 congregations reported the organization of golden age or senior citizens classes or clubs.

In addition to the married couples clubs, the survey listed 1,121 organized Parent-Teacher League groups. Most of these are in the Northern Illinois, Michigan, and Central (Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky) Districts of the Synod.

To meet the needs of these married couples groups, the Family Life Committee is publishing a book "Married Couples Groups in the Church," by the Rev. Wayne E. Saffen, student pastor at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio.

Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The Shar-on Lutheran Church has decided to discontinue its present arrangement of service to the New Canadians, the Danish immigrants. The new Hymnal and Service Book is being introduced. A Youth Rally was recently held at the church with 60 young people in attendance. Student Intern Phil Jorgensen of Olds and Pastor Bent Damkar of Standard were speakers.

Webster Groves, Missouri. Bethany Lutheran Church, Axel M. Andersen pastor. Thirty-one new members were added to our church recently. Palm Sunday four adults were baptized and two adults were confirmed, eight children ranging in age from one year to twelve were baptized. Memorial gifts of one hundred Service Book and Hymnals were dedicated Mother's Day together with a Bible for the lectern, which was donated in memory of Rev. and Mrs. N. Bentsen by their children.

New Altar hangings have been purchased by memorial gifts.

We were happy to be notified that our congregation will be a member of the Illinois District of the TALC as we always have belonged to the Illinois District UELC.

Annual Convention information. Meal tickets will be issued at \$9.00 for the entire convention except the two banquets, one for the men and one for the women.

Hotel rooms cost from \$4.50 to \$8.00 per day.

BOOK REVIEWS

books reviewed may be purchased from Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebraska.

Teaching Luther's Catechism

by Herbert Girgensohn, Muhlenberg Press, 306 pages, \$4.00.

The pastors and teachers who look for help in teaching the catechism will find this book extremely helpful. It discusses the first three parts of Luther's Catechism. Baptism and the Lord's Supper are not included. Each commandment and each individual part is treated in a clear and living manner. It will refresh the pastor to read a chapter in this book before he appears before his confirmation class.

Corpus Christi

by Geddes MacGregor, Westminster Press, 302 pages, \$5.00.

The nature of the church according to the Reformed tradition is discussed in this book by a most able writer

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from page 2)

Castro Valley, Calif., Anker M. Jensen, Pastor. April 29th was set aside for a Circuit Rally held at Faith Lutheran Church. Women of the Church from Oakland, San Francisco and Petaluma were guests for the day. The program was entitled "The Bay Area Circuit Meeting of The Women's Missionary Society. The program started with a Matin Service by Pastor Jensen followed by a vocal solo "Stranger of Galilee" sung by Karna Chapman. President Elsie Schultz welcomed all the guests present. A Bible Study was enjoyed by those present, led by Betty Ehlers, Bonnie Smith, Gertrude Loeffert and Ruth Wildrick. A delicious luncheon was then served followed by a brief business meeting. Mrs. JoAnn Schoenwieler sang "Beautiful Savior." The congregation was led in Scripture and prayer by Ollie Crabe. A vocal duet was sung by Vita Jensen and Ardis Steenerson. The highlight of the program was the guest

CONVENTION NOTICE

Pella congregation of Sidney, Montana extends an invitation to all pastors, delegates and guests of the Synod to attend the 63rd annual Synodical Convention of the U.E.L.C. to be held in Sidney, June 18-23. We ask that you send your reservations as soon as you are able to do so to Mr. Eldon Steffens, Box 631, Sidney, Montana.

The homes of our members are open to visiting pastors, delegates and guests.

For those wishing hotel and motel accommodations, we give you this information: we have excellent and ample hotel accommodations; as far as the motels are concerned, they are also excellent, but there are not as many available motel rooms as there are hotel rooms.

Sidney is located just North of U. S. Highway No. 10 on Highway 16. There are excellent rail and bus accommodations to Glendive, Montana, and rail accommodations to Culbertson, Montana and Williston, North Dakota. All pastors, delegates and guests, will be met at any of these points if they will notify Mr. Henry Andersen, Route 1, Sidney, Montana in advance of their arrival.

Frontier Airlines has two Flights into Sidney daily. If you desire to be met at the airport, kindly notify Mr. Andersen as to the time of your arrival. Our transportation committee will be on call to meet all who desire its services.

Iver M. Iverson

President of Pella Lutheran Church

speaker Dr. M. Hunter Smith, M.D., called as Missionary to Nigeria, Africa. His topic was entitled "A Missionary's Challenge." Here is a brief synopsis of Dr. Smith's interesting message:

"In order to faithfully fulfill our responsibility at home in support of our missionaries, we must live lives centered in Christ. This requires living the Christian life faithful in daily Bible study, daily prayer, support in light of scriptural teaching, prompt obedience to the will of God and finally faithful witnessing to the unsaved at home and within our own churches. The difference between missionary service and evangelism is largely geographic. Phillips translation of Col. 1:28 outlines the Christian's responsibility in witnessing: So naturally we proclaim Christ! We warn everyone we meet, and we teach everyone we can, all that we know

about Him, so that if possible, we bring every man up to his full maturity in Christ."

The sum of \$136.36 was received this to be divided equally with the University of California Hospital Chaplaincy and the Foreign Mission Board—Sudan preferred.

A very joyous day was enjoyed by everyone, the weather beautiful!

(Continued on page 15)

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